GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:427
ANSWERED ON:04.03.2002
SCHEME FOR COCONUT FARMERS
P.C. THOMAS

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any scheme from State Governments for assisting coconut farmers;

(b) if so, the details therof, State-wise; and

(c) the action taken thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b)&(c): A Central Sector Scheme on Integrated Development of Coconut Industry in India is being implemented through Coconut Development Board in all coconut producing States during IX Plan with an outlay of Rs.105.00 crore for increasing production and productivity of coconut. Government of Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Orissa submitted additional proposals for providing assistance to coconut farmers. The State wise details of project proposals received and the action taken thereon is as follows:

(i) Kerala

Government of Kerala submitted a proposal for Central assistance of Rs.100.00 crore for control of Eriophyid mite of coconut. This was examined by Central Government and eligible assistance of Rs.24.25 crore was released to the State Government during 2000-2001 through the Coconut Development Board for which utilization reports have not been received from the State Governments.

During 2000-2001, Government of Kerala submitted another project-Technology Mission on Coconut, at a total outlay of Rs.992.74 crore with Rs.501.44 crore as Government of India share for a period of five years. This was examined in Department of Agriculture and Cooperation and comments were sent to Government of Kerala with the request to modify the proposal accordingly. Now, Government of India has, however, agreed to implement a Central Sector Scheme for Technology Mission on Coconut in all coconut producing States during the year 2001-2002 as part of the IX Plan. The scheme for Technology Mission on Coconut envisages to address issues relating to technology development, demonstration and adoption in the field of insect/pest and disease management; processing and product diversification; and market research and promotion. The Coconut Development Board has already initiated preliminary necessary action and released the `Operational Guidelines` to implement the scheme.

(ii) Karnataka

During the current year, Government of Karnataka have requested for release of Rs.166.00 crore for implementing a scheme to mitigate the mite problem in 12 major affected districts of the State. In addition, Karnataka Government submitted another project proposal for integrated pest management programme for control of Black headed caterpillar, Red palm weevil and Rhinoceros beetle for Rs.18.38 crore.

During the year 2000-2001, the Coconut Development Board released Rs.7.4 crore to Government of Karnataka for mite control for which the utilization reports are yet to be received from the State Government.

(iii) Tamil Nadu

During the current year, Government of Tamil Nadu submitted a project proposal for the integrated management of pest − Red palm weevil and Rhinoceros beetle at a total cost of Rs.50.00 lakh.

The Board has released Rs.25.00 lakh to the State Government under Integrated Pest Management for control of these pests in Tamil Nadu.

(iv) Orissa

The Government of Orissa submitted a project proposal for control of Black headedcaterpillar and for mite management at a financial outlay of Rs.26.68 lakh. The Board has releasedan amount of Rs.26.68 lakh under the Integrated Pest Management for control of Black headed caterpillar and mite.